



Smithsonian

Collaborate with the Smithsonian Institution

TEACHING YOUTH VALUABLE SKILLS IN FABRICATION

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival seeks to build partnerships with DC-area high schools, organizations, individuals, and businesses to help launch an after-school skills-based Tech-Teach program beginning in early March 2018.

This five-week internship will introduce DC-area high school students to techniques in design and computer-aided drafting (CAD), metal fabrication, welding, traditional carpentry, wood working, and CNC machine operation. Students will design and construct scenic and structural elements for a new iconic structure to be installed by staff later in the summer on the National Mall for the 2018 Folklife Festival.

The workshops will occur at the Folklife fabrication shop, a newly expanded production facility in Lanham, Maryland with an abundance of high-quality tools and machines. Students will be instructed 1-on-1 by experienced technical staff, industry professionals, and guest instructors.

Photo: Folklife Festival infrastructure adorns the Washington Monument grounds during the opening weekend of the NMAAHC.

The Folklife Festival hopes to develop partnerships with entities that contribute to the organization, implementation, and funding of our pilot program in the spring of 2018 and provide additional support in identifying a core group of six to eight applicants, offering summer internships to participating students, donating cash, time, and/or resources to enriching the programs curriculum through demonstrations, presentations, field trips, and exposure to other traditions, industries, and trades.

To contribute to the work we do, please reach out to the contact information below. We look forward to making a difference in these young peoples' lives, and are excited and thankful to have your support!

For more information, please contact:

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Thank You!

